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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/791,807	03/04/2004	Hiroyuki Yamasaki	018775-896	5236
21839	7590	01/11/2006	EXAMINER	
BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC (INCLUDING BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS) POST OFFICE BOX 1404 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404			GOODROW, JOHN L.	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1756	

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/791,807

Applicant(s)

YAMASAKI ET AL.

Examiner

John L. Goodrow

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/04, 9/05.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 3/04 & 9/05 is of record. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 3, 4, 12, 17, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 3,4,17 and 18 do not further limit the independent claims. Claim 12 lacks the antecedent base for " the charge-controlling agent".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishimori et al [6617091] in view of Ohmura et al [6753122], Cheng [6309787, 6455220, 6413692]. Applicants' claims are to a particle and toner formed by the miniemulsion method. Nishimori et al teaches the preparation of particles preferably by the miniemulsion method note Col 18 lines 40-45. The resin particle can contain many agents such as release agents, charge control agents and pigments with a monomer dispersed in a form of oil drops in an aqueous medium. A water soluble polymerization initiator is added to thus obtained suspension to occur radical polymerization, hereinafter referred to "miniemulsion method" Col 17-Col 18. The pigment can be a black pigment, for example, carbon black. Note Col. 8 line 45. The charge control agents are found in Col. 13 lines 40-50. Wax is added as a release agent. The CCA particle size is taught to be in the range of 10-100nm note Ohmura et al Col.8 line 15-20 who teaches colorant particles in a toner composition produced by polymerization of a polymerizable monomer in an aqueous medium. Cheng all teach the miniemulsion polymerization method of preparing a toner particle with various CCA colorant particles. Cheng [6309787] teaches aggregating an encapsulated colorant with colorant particles generated by a miniemulsion polymerization and wherein the monomer is of a diameter of from about 100-1000nm. Cheng [6455220] teaches that the miniemulsion of colorant particles can result in a color resolutions having high light transmission note Col. 4 lines 60- Col.5 line 45. Chang [6413692] teaches that the colorants generated by miniemulsion polymerization can have triboelectric charges of $-35\mu\text{C}/\text{gram}$ (

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microcoulombs per gram) at 20 percent humidity, $-28\mu\text{C}/\text{gram}$ at 50% relative humidity, and $-13\mu\text{C}/\text{gram}$ at 80 % relative humidity. Note Examples Col. 23-Col. 29.

It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention with a reasonable expectation of success to use the miniemulsion polymerization method to prepare a particle or toner that has the colorant particle and charge control particle in the particles with the taught physical properties that improve the particles use in electrophotography developer composition.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John L. Goodrow whose telephone number is 571-272-1384. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark F. Huff can be reached on 571-272-1385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


John L. Goodrow
A.U. 1756